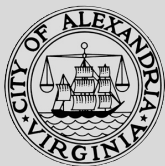


January 2005

A Newsletter for Alexandria Residents



Inside...

Planning for King St. and Waterfront. . . 2

Resident Survey Results 3

Winter Weather Preparedness 4

New Alexandria Paratransit Services . . 5

Ground Broken at T.C. Williams 6

George Washington Birthday Parade . . 7

Calendar of Events 8

City Offices Close for Holidays, Inauguration

City government offices will close for the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday on Jan. 17, the Presidential Inauguration on Jan. 20, and Presidents' Day on Feb. 21.

Information about changes in City programs and services during the holidays will be posted on the City's web site alexandriava.gov. Information is also available by calling the Office of Citizen Assistance at 703.838.4800. For details about Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Department programs call the Special Events Hotline, 703.883.4686.

New Foster Homes Needed

Foster families are needed to assist the children of our community. Daycare for children is provided for working families. Children receive all medical and dental care. For more information and dates of upcoming training classes, call Karen Chaudhry, 703.838.0891.

Copias en español del FYI en Alexandria están disponibles en las Bibliotecas de la Ciudad, el Departamento de Servicios Humanos, el Centro de Recreación Lee y la Municipalidad.

City Council Appoints Hartmann as City Manager



Pictured back row left to right: Council Members Woodson, Macdonald, Smedberg, and Gaines. Front row: Vice Mayor Pepper, Marcia and James Hartmann, Mayor Euille and Councilman Krupicka.

The Alexandria City Council appointed James K. Hartmann, the County Administrator for Spartanburg County, SC, as City Manager effective Jan. 10, 2005. "We are very fortunate to have someone with Jim's caliber as our new City Manager," said Mayor William D. Euille. "His experience, leadership, and commitment to quality local government will be an asset to this City."

Phil Sunderland, City Manager since March 2000, stepped down to pursue other professional opportunities. For the 14 years before his appointment as manager, Sunderland served as the Alexandria City Attorney.

As Alexandria's chief executive officer, Hartmann will be responsible for overseeing a budget of over \$500 million and a workforce of more than 2,500 employees. The City Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the government and appoints all City department heads and employees, except court and school

personnel. Alexandria is an independent city since Virginia cities have no county affiliation, with about 135,000 residents.

Hartmann has been County Administrator for Spartanburg County since 1999, where he oversees 1,450 employees who provide services to the County's 260,000 residents. Prior to his arrival in Spartanburg County, Hartmann served from 1996 to 1999 as the County Administrator for Eagle County, CO, and from 1983 to 1996 worked for Orange County, FL. A native of California, Hartmann also served in the United States Coast Guard from 1974 to 1982, where he developed training programs for hospital corps and the Emergency Medical Program.

In addition to his County Administrator responsibilities, Hartmann also serves as an adjunct faculty member at the University of South Carolina, Spartanburg, and has been a visiting lecturer at the Clemson/University of South Carolina MPA program.

Improvements Planned for Refuse Collection And Curbside Recycling Service

About 19,000 Alexandria households which receive refuse and recycling collection from the City of Alexandria may be served on new routes and different days **beginning the end of January 2005**. The changes are necessary in order to reduce the amount of truck traffic, noise and pollution on neighborhood streets, and to provide more efficient service to residents. In addition to the change in refuse collection routes, the City is expanding the types of material that will be picked up at the curb for recycling. Only households which receive City refuse collection (about 19,000 out of about 70,000 households) will have a new collection day and expanded recycling. Residents who receive service from private companies will not be affected.

continued on page 2



PUBLIC FORUM

Current Issues Up for Discussion

Planning for the Waterfront Begins this Spring

The City will begin a planning process for the Potomac River waterfront this spring. The planning effort will focus specifically on the land area between Wolfe and Queen Streets and between the river and Union Street. The City is actively looking to purchase the last undeveloped waterfront parcels and to plan their use for permanent public space. The purpose of the planning process is to find a consensus about the future use of the remaining waterfront land and will focus on ways to maximize the public use, public enjoyment and public access to the waterfront. The process will be open to the public at each juncture, and, in addition to ongoing community meetings, the Planning Commission will host a series of workshop sessions at key points in the process to review all information and ideas and to solicit input from the public.

City Council took a significant preliminary step recently when it approved a plan to purchase several waterfront properties and asked staff to meet with the owners of those properties to discuss a potential purchase. Regarding the Old Dominion Boat Club property, Mayor William D. Euille and a work group of staff, residents and Boat Club representatives will work together over the next few months in the hope of exploring future options for the Boat Club. All of these steps will aid the public planning effort when it begins in earnest this spring. For more information, contact the Department of Planning and Zoning, 703.838.4666.

King Street Retail Strategy Topic of Public Hearings

The King Street Retail Strategy, which explores ways to strengthen the retail sector in Old Town, is scheduled for a Planning Commission public hearing on March 1, and a City Council public hearing on March 12. Both hearings will be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 301 King St. A community meeting will be held on Feb. 15 (location to be announced) to present the recommendations and to solicit comments. The King Street Retail Strategy can be viewed on the City of Alexandria's web site alexandriava.gov.

The King Street Retail Study was begun in November 2003. An advisory committee including representatives of community associations and business groups was active throughout the study. The results of the study formed the King Street Retail Strategy.

King Street is a neighborhood main street and a national tourist attraction that thrives on attracting a wide array of customers while it is nestled into a stable residential community. As a historic district, it must compete with newer retail districts. Planning for King Street's retail sector requires balancing the needs of business owners, residents, employees, and visitors – each contributes to making King Street a special place.

The vision for King Street is an attractive and vital retail environment from the waterfront to the King Street Metro Station, unlike anywhere in the Washington region. Critical issues to the continued success of King Street's retail sector include managing the parking resources, addressing the street's design needs, generating greater street-level activity, and establishing a framework to manage and fund the necessary initiatives.

Many of the study's recommendations need funding and a dedicated organization to make them happen. The study suggests the creation of an organization – a public and private partnership – to coordinate these activities and to push forward with funding the various recommended improvements and activities. For more information check the web site or call 703.838.4666.

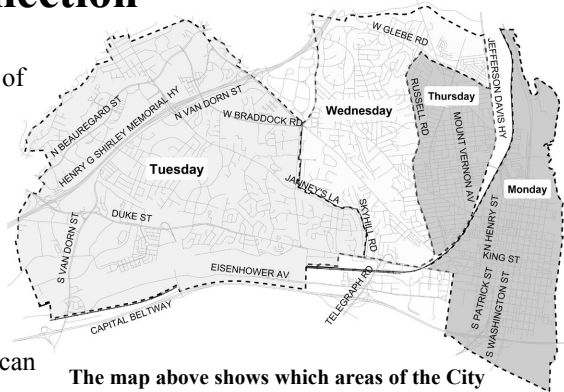
New Routes and Pickup Days for Refuse Collection

continued from page 1

The new collection days will begin Jan. 31, 2005. Households will be notified of their new collection day by mail in early January. Refuse collection schedules, including the day of pickup and a map of routes, is posted on the City's web site. Residents can enter their address to verify their new collection day. An additional reminder notice will be delivered to households two weeks prior to the start date.

The types of materials that will be picked up at the curb for recycling will expand at the end of January to include office paper and cardboard. "Office paper" includes office and computer paper of all colors, junk mail and writing paper. Food and candy wrappers, and juice boxes are not included. To recycle office paper, it may be mixed with newspaper and magazines in a brown paper bag, while cardboard can be flattened and placed under the yellow recycle bin for collection. Items currently collected at the curb include plastic bottles and jugs, glass bottles and jars, aluminum and steel cans, newspapers, magazines, catalogs and telephone books. The City hired a private company, Century Disposal of Maryland, to provide the expanded curbside recycling.

For more information about new collection routes and expanded recycling, visit the City's web site alexandriava.gov or contact the City's Solid Waste Division at 703.751.5130.



The map above shows which areas of the City will receive refuse collection on which days.



IN FOCUS



Alexandrians Surveyed Rate Quality of Life “Very Good”; Traffic and Taxes are Noted as Top Concerns

When 1,001 Alexandria residents were surveyed by telephone in September, 97.2 % said their quality of life in Alexandria is very good or good. Compared to two years ago, 79.5 % said their quality of life was better or did not change. Those are just a sample of the responses to 93 questions included in a survey conducted to obtain residents' opinions regarding the quality of City government services and programs.

"I am very pleased to see that most residents surveyed said their quality of life is very good in Alexandria and that they gave high satisfaction ratings to most City services," said Mayor William D. Euille. "The Council will use the results of this survey, along with the adopted Strategic Plan, to develop initiatives for the City's future."

Highlights of the survey include:

QUALITY OF LIFE

- ♦ 97.2 % said quality of life in Alexandria is very good or good.
- ♦ The top ten reasons respondents gave for what they liked most about Alexandria today (highest first): convenient in general, near D.C., friendly people, cultural diversity, City has personality, convenient for work, size of community, feels like a small town, everything in walking distance, and town is wonderful.

LOCAL ISSUES

- ♦ Residents identified the following local issues as the ones they are most concerned about (in declining order): traffic (15.4%), taxes (12.1%), quality of school system (8.4%), and crime (8.1%).

COMMUNITY

- ♦ High satisfaction ratings were given to the Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, Police Department, the courtesy of City government staff, parks and recreational facilities, refuse and yard waste collection, and recreational opportunities and programs.
- ♦ Lower, but good to fair, satisfaction ratings were given to the City's recycling program, overall value of City services, condition of City sidewalks, performance of sanitary and storm sewer services, and City snow removal services.
- ♦ Poor satisfaction ratings were recorded for parking availability in respondents' neighborhoods, Old Town and other business districts.
- ♦ 83.3% of respondents said the City meets their service expectations always or most of the time.
- ♦ 10.4% said the City meets their service expectations sometimes.
- ♦ After removing "don't know" responses, 89.7% of all respondents said both elected and professional City officials are honest individuals dedicated to improving the equality of life in Alexandria.
- ♦ 85.4% of those surveyed said messages, information and other communication from the City are considered credible "always" or "most of the time."
- ♦ 10.8% said City communication is "sometimes" credible.

SERVICE AWARENESS

- ♦ The best known City services, among 24 measured, included City 911 emergency service, Metro Bus and Metrorail service, motor vehicle registration services, the Alexandria Library, DASH bus service, City-sponsored events, the City's historic and cultural facilities, and animal control/shelter.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

- ♦ When asked about unmet or under met needs, approximately one-third of the respondents could not name a specific need. The rest of those surveyed listed these top ten needs (most responses first): more affordable housing, more parking, traffic reduction, increased quality of public transportation, better schools and teachers, more open space, more police, more parks, need lower taxes, and more after school programs.

A complete report of the survey's findings is posted on the City's web site at alexandriava.gov/city/amacc/survey.html. Copies of the survey's findings are also available for review in City libraries. Residents who would like a copy of the survey results may request one from the City Manager's Office, City Hall, 3rd floor or by calling 703.838.3828.

New Resident Information

Just moved to Alexandria? Here's a list of useful web sites and telephone numbers.

Automobile Registration

alexandriava.gov/city/tax_guide
or call 703.838.4560

Citizen Assistance

703.838.4800

School Enrollment

www.acps.k12.va.us
or call 703.824.6600 or TTY 703.824.6666

Trash Pickup and Recycling

alexandriava.gov/tes/sw/overview.html
or contact the Division of Transportation and Environmental Services at 703.751.5130

Voter Registration:

www.alexandriavoter.org
or call 703.838.4050

A complete listing of services in Alexandria can be found in the Know Your City Guide available at the Citizen Assistance Office in City Hall and the City's web site at alexandriava.gov/city/kyc/kycindex.html.





GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Alexandria is Ready for Winter Weather Challenges

Winter weather often brings snowfall, ice storms, power outages, water main breaks and changes or cancellations in City programs. The City of Alexandria is committed to providing residents with continuous service and up-to-date information during weather emergencies.

Snow and ice removal: The Department of Transportation and Environmental Services is responsible for snow and ice removal from the City's public streets. City crews work around the clock to ensure that all primary roads, hospital and emergency routes and school bus routes are kept clear and passable. The City is geared up (funding and staffing) to have roadways passable within 48 hours of a 6" snowfall. A map of these routes and additional information can be viewed on the City's web site at alexandriava.gov/tes and clicking on the maintenance division.

Residents and businesses can help during snow emergencies by clearing snow and ice from sidewalks and driveways. City Code states that business owners and homeowners are responsible for clearing sidewalks abutting their property within 24 hours after a storm has ended. Failure to clear sidewalks may result in the City having the work done and charging the cost to the property owner.

More snow removal tips: Do not shovel snow from private property onto the sidewalk or street; park cars off of streets when possible; clear leaves and snow from nearby fire hydrants and storm drains; check on neighbors needing special assistance; use alternate transportation during winter storms; make arrangements for required snow shoveling on adjacent sidewalks early.

Weather emergency: If the city manager declares a weather emergency, residents must immediately remove their cars from snow emergency routes to clear roads for emergency vehicles, or cars may be ticketed and towed.

Information: Up-to-date information about snow emergencies, scheduling changes or cancellations in City programs will be posted on the City's web site alexandriava.gov, e-mailed to subscribers of *eNews You Can Use*, and provided to radio and television stations for broadcast. For general information during office hours, call Citizen Assistance at 703.838.4800. For snow removal information or to report potholes, call 703.838.4488.

Water main breaks: In the event of a water main break in underground pipes, water to surrounding buildings is shut off temporarily while workers repair the problem. To report water main breaks, call the Virginia American Water Co. at 703.549.7080 or 703.491.8814 after normal business hours.

Power outages: To report an electrical power outage call Dominion Virginia, at 1.888.667.3000.

Distinguished Budget Award Bestowed on City for 16th Year

For the 16th consecutive year, the City of Alexandria is the recipient of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the City budget. The award represents a significant achievement and reflects the commitment of the City to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the City had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation.

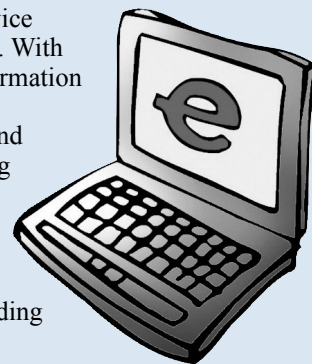
Since the inception of the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program in 1984, approximately 900 entities have received the award. Recipients of the award have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

City Agency Wins National Accreditation

The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing presented the City's Purchasing Office with the prestigious Outstanding Agency Accreditation Award. The award recognizes the office for outstanding leadership in the public procurement profession. The City becomes one of 76 governmental or private agencies to receive the award since the award's inception in 1999.

Free eNews Information Service

The City's *eNews You Can Use* service offers over 36 categories of information. With *eNews*, users can sign up to receive information from the City on a variety of topics. The messages, ranging from news releases and department newsletters to public meeting dockets and payment deadline reminders, will be sent directly via e-mail. Emergency messages can be sent to text pagers or cell phones. Only requested information will be sent, avoiding unwanted e-mail. To sign up, visit



Is the official publication of the City of Alexandria and is published quarterly by the City Manager's Office. For more information, call 703.838.4300.

*City Manager: James Hartmann
Public Information Officer: Barbara Gordon*

Chief Writers: Anna Collinson, Kimberley Fogle, Jennifer Harris, Laura Overstreet, Raynard Owens, and Shannon Steffee.

*Design and Layout: Justin Thompson
Photography: Raynard Owens and Chuck Hagee*



PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Call Office of Citizen Assistance for General Information about Alexandria

Looking for information about Alexandria programs and services or have a question about the City's government and you don't know who to call? Whether you have a question or problem, the best place to call is the Office of Citizen Assistance, 703.838.4800, or for the hearing impaired the TTY number is 703.838.5056. Inquiries can also be faxed to Citizen Assistance at 703.838.6426 or sent via e-mail to linda.owens@alexandriava.gov.

The Citizen Assistance Office, located on the first floor of City Hall, 301 King St., is often the first point of contact for residents with problems or concerns, or who need more information about the City government. The Office is intended to be the central place within the City government where residents can always go to get problems resolved or questions answered.

The Office of Citizen Assistance is open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. The Consumer Affairs Division is open until 6 pm at 703.838.4350. After 5 pm, callers may leave a message at 703.838.4800 for a call back the next day, or in case of serious problems that cannot wait until the next day, residents should call 703.836.4266.

In addition to providing information, the Office performs other services. Citizen Assistance staff receive and process requests for materials and documents under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The staff also processes appointments to Council-appointed boards and commissions and maintains commission records. The Office of Citizen Assistance mediates complaints alleging unfair or fraudulent business practices or disputed transactions occurring in the City. Finally, it oversees the delivery of cable television service in the City by monitoring the City's cable operator's performance, resolving subscriber complaints, and scheduling programming for the government access channel (Channel 70).

For general information about the City of Alexandria, or to learn the contact information for a specific department, program, service or problem, contact Citizen Assistance, 703.838.4800, or e-mail linda.owens@alexandriava.gov, or visit the office in City Hall.

City Launches Free DASH Lunch Service

The City launched a free DASH shuttle service earlier this month from the Alexandria Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) campus to Old Town and back from 11:30 am to 2 pm, Monday through Friday. The bus service is available to anyone, including PTO employees, traveling from and to the PTO campus area during lunch. The shuttle will operate every 10 minutes.

The pickup point for the lunch-shuttle service will be at the PTO offices on Ballenger Avenue. The shuttle will run continuously and pick up and drop off passengers at King and Alfred Streets; King and Henry Streets; King and Fayette Streets; and King and West Streets; and will return to the PTO campus.

For more information on the free DASH shuttle service, call 703.370.3274 or visit dashbus.com.



Alexandria Community Services Board

Emergency Services provides 24-hour mental health crisis intervention on the phone or in person. Call 703.838.4455.

The Detox Center provides programs for persons in withdrawal from alcohol or drugs. Call 703.838.4482

Mental Retardation Services assists persons with mental retardation and their families. Call 703.838.5932.



Alexandria Welcomes Paratransit Vehicles

Three new, state of the art vehicles are available to provide non-ambulatory paratransit services to City residents with disabilities. The vehicles are for the exclusive use of paratransit services in the City of Alexandria. Welcoming one of the vans are (pictured from left to right) Raymond Johnson, Robbie Werth, Kathryn Cunningham, Mayor Euille, Chet Avery, Tom Culpepper, and Lakeshia Lewis.

DOT is a paratransit program with over 1,100 customers utilizing DOT to take over 54,000 trips per year in Alexandria and throughout Northern Virginia. DOT is regulated by the Americans with Disabilities Act which recognizes that some persons with disabilities are not able to use conventional fixed-route, fixed-scheduled public transportation due to their disability. DOT is an extension of and is comparable to the City's bus service, DASH. DOT is a curb-to-curb service for persons with disabilities, which means that a patron of the service is picked up at the curb of his or her origin and dropped off at the curb of his or her destination. Both taxi and lift-equipped van service are available for trips throughout the City of Alexandria, the City of Falls Church, Arlington County, Fairfax County, and Fairfax City. For more information, call 703.838.3800 or visit the web site at: alexandriava.gov/tes/ts/dot_paratransit_program.html.

November 2004 marked the 20th anniversary of the operation of Alexandria's DOT Paratransit service. The DOT program has been identified as a model paratransit program in the Washington metropolitan area, and has received an award from the National Organization on Disability for being one of the finest paratransit programs in the nation. DOT has also received an award from the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce for its drivers providing outstanding services to individuals with disabilities in the City.



CITY LIFE

Homeownership Fair Will Help First-time Homebuyers Achieve the American Dream

Homeownership has long been the American dream and can be a critical first step in achieving personal financial security. To help homebuyers along the path to homeownership, the City of Alexandria will hold its 11th Annual Homeownership Fair on April 9 from 9:30 am until 1 pm at George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. The Homeownership Fair offers opportunities for homebuyers to meet lenders, real estate professionals, and non-profit agency representatives who can offer advice and individual counseling on achieving homeownership. Classes will be offered in English and Spanish and will cover topics such as shopping for an affordable home loan, the home purchase process, and overcoming barriers to homeownership. City residents and those who work in the City can learn about the special financing opportunities that are available for first-time homebuyers.

The Homeownership Fair is free and reservations are not required. Those unable to attend may call the Office of Housing Implementation Division at 703.838.4622 for more information.

Ground Broken For New T.C. Williams High School

Ground was broken on Dec. 4 for Alexandria City Public Schools' new T.C. Williams High School. The new school will be built at the school's current location, 3330 King St., and is scheduled to open in September 2007.

The 461,000-square-foot high school will cost approximately \$88 million to build and have a capacity of 2,500 students in grades 10 through 12. The three-story building, designed by Moseley Architects of Richmond, will feature a 1,200-seat auditorium, a 3,000-seat gymnasium, a planetarium, and a parking deck with 416 spaces.

In addition, ACPS is committed to a "Green T.C. Williams" which will result in certification from the U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, making the school the first LEED certified building in Alexandria. Activities during the construction process, including educating the subcontractors, building demolition, recycling and sorting demolition materials, and the final building commissioning, are all necessary for certification as a silver LEED project. The general contractor is Hensel Phelps of Greeley, CO. The current T.C. Williams school was built in 1965 and is the City's only public high school.



Pictured from left to right: City Manager Phil Sunderland, School Superintendent Becky Perry, School Board Chairman Mark Wilkoff, Mayor William Euille, School Board Vice Chair Molly Danforth and Vice Mayor Del Pepper.

Governor Warner Visits Samuel Tucker

Governor Mark R. Warner launched the second component of his Healthy Virginians Initiative at a November news conference at Alexandria's Samuel Tucker Elementary School. The initiative focuses on improving school lunch and breakfast options, encouraging healthier school vending machine offerings, and promoting increased physical exercise for Virginia's school children.

Office on Women Seeks Volunteers

The Alexandria Office on Women is seeking volunteers to help support its programs and services to the community. Hotline companions are needed for the Domestic Violence Program and the Sexual Assault Response and Awareness (SARA) program. Training is provided. For more information or to register for the Domestic Violence volunteer training, contact Betsy Greene at 703.838.4911. The next SARA training program begins in late February and runs through March. For more information or to register, call Erika Callaway-Kleiner at 703.838.5030. Volunteers are also needed for the Speakers Bureau, which uses trained volunteers to present the "Expect Respect" program in the Alexandria schools. The program focuses on awareness of sexual assault and domestic violence issues. The 10-hour training will be held in February. For more information or to register, contact Jen Harris at 703.838.5030.

Saluting the Women of Alexandria

The Alexandria Commission for Women and the Office on Women will celebrate National Women's History Month in March by honoring Alexandria women who have made outstanding contributions to the City. Women will be recognized for their achievements in nine categories. For more information on award categories or for nomination forms, visit the web site at alexwomen.com or call 703.838.5030. The 25th annual awards banquet will be held on March 28.

Police Caution Against ID Theft

Make a new year's resolution to not be the victim of identity theft:

- ♦ Buy a shredder to destroy unsolicited credit card offers, bills and other sensitive documents.
- ♦ Check your bank account balances regularly and review statements thoroughly.
- ♦ Check your credit report annually to see if there is any unusual activity that may indicate fraud. The three credit bureaus are:

Equifax: 800.685.1111 or www.equifax.com
 Experian: 888.397.3742 or www.experian.com
 Trans Union: 800.916.8800 or www.tuc.com



F U N F O R M A T I O N



Recreation Department 2nd in Virginia to Earn National Accreditation

The City's Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Department has earned national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Parks and Recreation Agencies. Alexandria's Recreation Department is only the second department in Virginia and one of 46 in the United States to earn national accreditation.

As an accredited agency, the Alexandria Recreation Department responded to 155 standards in 10 categories, such as strategic planning, resource management, public information and marketing, human resources, fiscal management, programs and services, facility and land use management, safety and security, and research and evaluation.

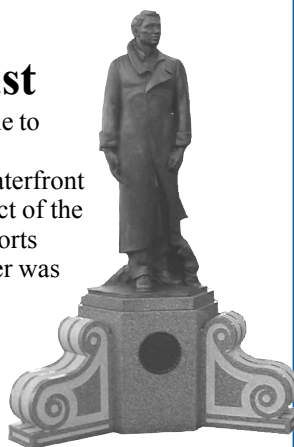
The accreditation team noted Alexandria for a number of strengths including the pride, professionalism and enthusiasm of the staff and the providing of quality services to the residents and visitors of the City.



Pictured above from left to right are: Robert Hall, Accreditation Team Chair; Sandra Whitmore, Former Director of Alex. Dept. of Rec.; Kirk Kincannon, Director of Alex. Dept. of Rec.; Janet Barnett, Deputy Director, Alex. Dept. of Rec.; Dale Larsen, Chair, Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies; Debbie Anderson, Special Projects Coordinator, Alex. Dept. of Rec.; and Larry Hale, Member, Accreditation Team.

New Monument Honors City's Past

A new monument recognizing Alexandria's heritage as a home to shipbuilders and a colonial seaport was unveiled in October. The Shipbuilder Monument stands over seven feet tall in the City's Waterfront Park, between King and Prince Streets. The monument is a project of the Alexandria Arts Safari, a local nonprofit organization which supports public art and educational and historical projects. The Shipbuilder was created by local sculptor Michael Curtis.



2005 Official Visitors Guide To Alexandria Available

The 2005 Official Visitors Guide to Alexandria is available at the Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King St. This year's guide is bigger than ever and is filled with suggestions for shopping, dining and attractions for visiting friends and relatives - or for being a tourist in your own hometown! Take a look at the new Neighborhoods section, including Old Town, Del Ray and the West End areas of Alexandria. You'll also find Neighborhoods as a new feature of the web site www.funside.com.

"Paris on the Potomac" in Alexandria

Alexandria will join Washington, DC in celebrating "Paris on the Potomac," Feb. 14 - May 31. In support of this theme, the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra will partner with the National Gallery of Art for a concert on April 2, inspired by the works of Toulouse-Lautrec on exhibit at the Gallery during the spring. Also, the Carlyle House Historic Park will recreate the "Grandest Congress" and present a French and Indian War military encampment on April 9, in conjunction with the Paris on the Potomac theme.

Alexandria to Host Largest G.W. Parade

The George Washington Birthday Parade, scheduled for Feb. 21 in Old Town, is the largest parade in the nation for the United States' first president and Alexandria's hometown hero. The parade will feature marching bands, floats, military and re-enactment units, Masonic groups and equestrian units, antique cars, and of course, George and Martha Washington. Visit the web site washingtonbirthday.net for details or call 703.991.4474. For a listing of other events during the George Washington Birthday Celebration weekend, Feb. 19-21, visit www.funside.com.



Alexandria Honored For Preservation

The City has been designated a Preserve America Community by First Lady Laura Bush. The Preserve America initiative is a White House effort to encourage and support community efforts for the preservation and enjoyment of America's priceless cultural and natural heritage. The goals of the initiative include a greater shared knowledge about the nation's past, strengthened regional identities and local pride, increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of communities.

For more information and updates on the initiative, visit the web site at www.preserveamerica.gov.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Film Screening:
"Red Badge of Courage"**

Saturday, Jan. 29, 2 pm
Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site
Free, 703.838.4848

Civil War Ball

Saturday, Jan. 29,
8 - 11 pm
Gadsby's Tavern
Museum
\$30/advance;
\$40/door, 703.838.4242

**Swordsmen's Rendezvous**

Saturday, Feb. 5, 11 - 4:30 pm
Gadsby's Tavern Museum
\$5/person (reservations required)
703.838.4242

**George Washington's Birthnight
Banquet & Ball**

Sunday, Feb. 19, 5:30 - 11 pm
Gadsby's Tavern Museum
\$75; \$30/ball only, 703.838.4242

George Washington

Classic 10-K Race
Saturday, Feb. 19, 8:30 am
Eisenhower Ave. east of Holiday Inn
\$20 in advance, \$22 the day,
703.991.4474

**George Washington City-Wide
Birthday Celebration**

Feb. 19 - 21
www.washingtonbirthday.net

Revolutionary War Encampment

Sunday, Feb. 20, 10 - 4 pm
Fort Ward Park
Free, 703.838.4848

**Open House at
Friendship Firehouse**

Monday, Feb. 21, 10 - 4 pm
107 S. Alfred St.
Free, 703.838.3891

**Open House at
Gadsby's Tavern Museum**

Monday, Feb. 21, 11 - 4 pm
134 N. Royal St.
Free, 703.838.4242

Open House at Carlyle House

Monday, Feb. 21, 11 - 4 pm
121 N. Fairfax St.
Free, 703.549.2997

**George Washington's
Farewell Address**

Monday, Feb. 21, 11 am, noon
The Lyceum
Free, 703.838.4994

**George Washington
Birthday Parade**

Monday, Feb. 21, 1 pm
Throughout Old Town
Free, 703.991.4474

**Black History Month Lecture,
Soul Food Taste**

Sunday, Feb. 27, 2 pm
Alexandria Black History Museum
Free, (reservations required)
703.838.4356

**24th Annual
St. Patrick's Day Parade**

Saturday, March 5, 12:30 pm
Old Town Alexandria
703.237.2199

Technology Week

March 7 - 11
703.838.4780

**Women's History
Month Lecture**

Saturday,
March 12, 1 pm
Fort Ward Museum
& Historic Site
\$5/person (reservations required)
703.838.4848

**Youth Basketball Championships**

Saturday, March 12, 9 am
Hammond Middle School
703.838.4345

Hunt for History

Saturday, March 26,
10 - 5 pm
Gadsby's Tavern
Museum
\$5/adult; \$3/child
(reservations required)

**Salute to Women Awards Banquet**

Monday, March 28, 6 - 9:30 pm
Holiday Inn Hotel, 625 First St.
703.838.5030

Homeownership Fair

April 9, 9:30 am - 1 pm
George Washington
Middle School
1005 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Free, 703.838.4622

**Take Our Daughters and
Sons to Work Day**

(Mentors Needed)
April 28
703.838.5030

FYI ALEXANDRIA

The City of Alexandria's Official Resident Newsletter

FYI ALEXANDRIA

City Hall ♦ 301 King Street ♦ Alexandria, VA 22314
alexandriava.gov

City Council 703.838.4550

Mayor William Euille (alexvamayor@aol.com)
Vice Mayor Redella Pepper (delpepper@aol.com)
Councilman Ludwig P. Gaines (councilmangaines@aol.com)
Councilman Rob Krupicka (rob@krupicka.com)
Councilman Andrew Macdonald (macdonaldcouncil@msn.com)
Councilman Paul Smedberg (paulcsmedberg@aol.com)
Councilwoman Joyce Woodson (council@joycewoodson.net)



PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Alexandria, VA
Permit No. 6062

